

The Honorable John W. Debelius III (Ret.) retired as the Circuit Administrative Judge, 6th Judicial Circuit (Frederick & Montgomery counties), and County Administrative Judge, Montgomery County Circuit Court. He served as an Associate Judge from July 20, 2001 to August 31, 2009. Judge Debelius is a designated Judge for Advanced Science and Technology Adjudication Resource (ASTAR) Center Program.

Judge Debelius attended Richard Montgomery High School in Rockville, Maryland. He graduated from the University of Maryland College Park and California State University at Northridge with a B.S. (business administration) in 1975, and the University of Baltimore School of Law with a J.D. in 1978. He served as a law clerk to Judge Philip M. Fairbanks in the Montgomery County Circuit Court and is the author of "The Maryland Boulevard Rule: A Time for Change" 6 University of Baltimore Law Review 223, 1977. Judge Debelius was admitted to the Maryland Bar in 1978 and practiced law with Debelius, Clifford, Debelius, Crawford, & Bonifant, 1979-2001.

He has participated in several associations and received numerous awards including: Member, Maryland State Bar Association (board of governors, 1994-96, 1999-2001; executive committee, 1999-2000); Montgomery County Bar Association (executive committee, 1994-1999; president, 1997-98). Fellow, Maryland Bar Foundation, 1996-. Board of Directors, Montgomery County Bar Foundation, 1996-2004, 2009- (president, 1998-99). Board of Governors, Maryland Trial Lawyers Association, 1996-98. House of Delegates, American Bar Association, 1999-2000. Master of the Bench, Montgomery Inn of Court, 1994- (president, 2003-04; membership chair, 1996-98). Certificate of Basic Mediation Training, Center for Dispute Resolution, University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law, 2016. Mentor of the Year, Montgomery Inn of Court, 1997. Professionalism Award, Montgomery County Bar Association, 2001. Maryland Leadership in Law Award, Daily Record, 2004. Lifetime Bar Leader Award, Montgomery County Bar Foundation, 2013. Annual Jurist Award, Montgomery County Bar Association, 2014. Service to Community Award, Montgomery County Bar Foundation, 2014. Maryland Leadership in Law Lifetime Achievement Award, Daily Record, 2017.